

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IGA-02 EB-08 L-03 /055 W

-----241304Z 101136 /43

R 241150Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2531

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

UNCLAS DOHA 0513

DEPT FOR SER/CFS, E/AID AND NEA/ARP

MANAMA FOR AID/DODSON AND USIS/MATTRAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, TGEN, NASA, QA

SUBJECT: COUNTRY FINANCED SERVICES-LANDSAT TEAM PRESENTATION IN  
QATAR

SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH FORMAL PRESENTATION VERY SPARSELY ATTENDED  
LANDSAT TEAM, ASSISTED BY DR. FAROUK EL-BAZ OF NATIONAL AIR  
AND SPACE MUSEUM, GOT INFORMATION TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS  
AND ADVISORS. END SUMMARY.

1. LANDSAT TEAM BRIEFING OF AMIR ON APRIL 19 WAS CANCELLED  
AT LAST MINUTE DUE TO DELAYED ARRIVAL (AND THEREFORE DEPARTURE)  
OF SHAYKH ZAYID, PRESIDENT OF UAE. ATTEMPTS TO RESCHEDULE  
BRIEFING FOR AMIR WERE UNSUCCESSFUL.

2. BRIEFING FOR OTHER GOQ OFFICIALS ON MORNING OF APRIL 20  
WAS HELD AS SCHEDULED BUT WAS VERY POORLY ATTENDED (TWO OF  
FIFTEEN INVITEES SHOWED) AGAIN DUE TO SCHEDULING PROBLEMS  
CAUSED BY LATE DEPARTURE OF SHAYKH ZAYID AND IMPENDING  
ARRIVAL OF PRESIDENT PEREZ OF VENEZUELA. ONE OF TWO WHO  
DID ATTEND PRESENTATION WAS DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP-  
MENT TECHNICAL CENTER, SAID MISHAL, ONE OF THE PRIME TARGETS  
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FOR THE PRESENTATION. PRESENTATION WENT VERY WELL. ALSO  
IN ATTENDANCE WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA (SEE PARA  
4 BELOW).

3. OTHER GOQ OFFICIALS AND ADVISORS WERE BRIEFED AT A  
LUNCHEON HELD AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. LIVELY  
DISCUSSION DEVELOPED ABOUT LANDSAT AND OTHER SPACE TECH-

NOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS. AT LUNCHEON TWO OTHER PRIME TARGETS, AMIR'S TECHNICAL ADVISOR HISHAM QADDUMI AND ADVISOR TO THE STATE OF QATAR DR. HASSAN KAMEL, WERE BRIEFED ALONG WITH REPRESENTATIVE OF FOREIGN MINISTRY.

4. MEDIA COVERAGE OF MISSITN WAS VERY GOOD . PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF MISSION LOCAL PRESS, RADIO AND TELEVISION CARRIED EMBASSY NEWS RELEASE ON VISIT. REPRESENTATIVES OF PRESS, RADIO AND TELEVISION ATTENDED BRIEFING ON MORNING OF APRIL 20. MEDIA REPS INTERVIEWED PARTICIPANTS AFTER PRESENTATION. FILMS OF PRESENTATION APPEARED IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC TELEVISION NEWS PROGRAMS AND REPORTS WERE CARRIED BY ENGLISH AND ARABIC RADIO NEWS SERVICES, AL ARAB DAILY NEWSPAPER AND THE QATAR NEWS AGENCY BULLETINS AND WIRE SERVICE. ALL REPORTS WERE POSITIVE.

5. EMBASSY WAS VERY PLEASED WITH WELL CONCEIVED AND PREPARED PRESENTATION OF LANDSAT TEAM. MESSRS. GOEDEKE, DAVIDSON AND STRICKLAND DID SUPERB JOB IN CONVEYING HIGHLY TECHNICAL SUBJECT MATTER IN FORMAT WHICH WAS CONCISE AND INTEL- LIGABLE TO LAYMEN. THEY ALSO EXCELLENT IN GIVE AND TAKE DISCUSSIONS THAT RANGED BEYOND PRESENTATION MATERIAL. PARTICULARLY IMPRESSIVE WAS THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PRESENTATION WAS TAILORED TO QATAR WITYZ SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO QATARI GEOLOGIC, HYDROLOGIC AND AGRICULTURAL DETAILS. THE TEAM HAD OBVIOUSLY DONE ITS HOMEWORK VERY WELL. THE PRESENCE OF DR. FAROUK EL BAZ WAS EXTREMELY

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USEFUL IN OPENING DOORS DURING PLANNING PHASE OF MISSION, IN ARRANGING FOR AMIR'S BRIEFING (WHICH AS MENTIONED FELL THROUGH FOR REASONS BEYOND OUR CONTROL) AND FOR ASSURING WIDE MEDIA COVERAGE.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009